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SATURDAY, - - MAY 24, 1890.

SHALL THE NEGRO BE ALLOWED TO VOTE.

There is no question more potent than, "Shall the Negro be allowed to vote?"

It seems strange that such a condition of affairs should present itself in view of the plain provisions of the Constitution which guarantees to every man regardless of color the right to cast one ballot and have it counted as he cast it.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, the father of Democracy declared a great principle when he announced in the Declaration of Independence, "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal."

The Holy Bible states no uncertain truth when it declares the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.

An illiterate man is not necessarily ignorant. He can discharge the duties of citizenship. He may be a producer and form the basis of the wealth of the state. This statement is true of the white and the black.

But the opponents of the Negro suffrage say nothing of an illiterate foreigner, who is not versed in the customs of our country. If he becomes naturalized, all is well with him so far as his right to vote is concerned.

He is recognized as a man and a brother. The finest places in the land are open to him. Money will admit him to the tables of the wise and the influential. Public accommodations are a secondary consideration. All of these are declared open unto him.

But what of the true American? The Colored man who for 250 years allowed the white men to live on in ease and luxury and who formed the basis of the wealth of the South is maltreated and abused.

It is a peculiar condition of affairs. The blood of the Negro was the first shed in the War of the Revolution. The Negro took a part in the War of 1812, and the late Civil War was decided by the valor of this same oppressed people. They worked out their own redemption, bought their own freedom with blood, and at the same time saved the life of the nation. In view of these facts which cannot be truthfully contradicted, is it not strange that the question should be asked, shall the Negro be allowed to vote?

Yet it is this query which has been answered in the negative by Mississippi, which presents itself to the country. That section asks for the abrogation of the 15th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. This state of bloodshed and anarchy would turn back the hands of progress, and place the country in the same position it occupied in '60.

The Colored people have endeavored to improve the opportunity offered them. They have engaged in business, bought real estate, acquired property, organized societies, educated their children, built churches, engaged in the various professions, and done what many white men have failed to do, voted conscientiously.

Then why should they be denied the right of suffrage? Such a proposition based, on prejudice which can be accounted for by the lack of the proper Christianizing influences.

May God grant that with the ushering in of new ideas the surging to the front of the waves of prosperity, this prejudice may be sent to the rear and the principles as enunciated by the Word of God be supreme in this land where all men are presumed to be free and

equal, and entitled alike to the beneficent results of living under an American flag beneath whose folds grow the fruits of liberty.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

The Republican Party of this country was never in better trim than it is today. Every indication betokens opportunities which if properly utilized will lead on to continued success.

Senator M. S. QUAY by his masterly leadership last November won a victory against odds which were almost insurmountable. The victory achieved came at the right time. Had the Democratic Party controlled the census, there is little doubt but that fraud would have been everywhere apparent.

It behooves therefore to be careful. In the Democratic camp may be found our most inveterate enemies.

The passage of a National Election Law should insure the congressional supremacy of the Republican Party in the 52d Congress.

By chicanery and fraud the Democratic ring has robbed the people of this country of their accredited representatives.

We shall view with satisfaction the enactment of such laws as will send to the rear the enemies of the Republic.

Let the colored people of this state take a renewed interest in the Virginia Seminary at Lynchburg. With over 200,000 Colored Baptists in the state, they control no institution of learning. It is time that we should look in this direction, put our shoulders to the wheel and with a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether erect one of the most attractive and useful buildings ever erected in this state, by the efforts of the Colored people. There are applications on hand now from students desiring admission. Five thousand dollars must be raised at once. We can do it. The question is whether we will. There was never so much harmonious action in the interest of this as now.

A death-blow to higher education is about to be dealt by the enemies of the Colored man. At the Virginia Normal and Collegiate Institute. Let us help ourselves. Shall Richmond, the queen city, setting gracefully on seven hills fall in the rear relative to the matter? Shall Lynchburg enterprise "down" Richmond tenacity?

We believe not. Then let each Colored man regardless of Church or denomination give something. Let the contribution cards be properly distributed. Let our leaders arouse the people and no longer allow our representatives to go abroad to be out-done and surpassed by a city like Lynchburg, when it is evident that we could beat her in the amount of money raised if we try.

This city gave the site for the Seminary. Enterprising Lynchburgers involved themselves more or less for the work already done and it behooves us to assume our share of the responsibility.

To other parts of Virginia, we say, rally! Raise the money. Send in your reports, and the public shall know to what extent you are interested in the education of your people.

The people of the South had to grunt and groan in order to raise a few thousand dollars for the Lee monument. One man in the North could have, with a stroke of the pen given the entire amount and have forgotten by the next day that he had given such a trifling amount away.

MORAL:—Go to the Northern man for money; Southern man for sentiment.

We must be truthful; we must be honest; we must be frugal; we must be moral and respect our women in order to win.

We don't want any white wives. Colored ones are good enough for us. We have all colors and conditions. God bless the colored women, and — God bless the white ones.

The Negro has more surplus preachers which he could spare than in any other profession.

Colored men have had a hard time, but they are here and intend to stay here.

All of the Colored people who desire to go to Africa should be allowed to go. America suits us until we get ready to take the gospel chariot for heaven.

If some Bourbon white men didn't have the Negro here to curse and abuse they would die from melancholia.

Governor P. W. MCKINNEY has made a record that he'd no doubt give many a dollar to wipe out.

Colored men, stand together. Stop knifing one another. Drop jealousy and try the influence of unity and all will be well.

When you bring an African to this country and educate him, he has more sense, and in many cases is smarter than some of his white brothers and yet some people would have you believe that the Negro is inferior.

If there were five thousand Colored millionaires in the South, there would be no talk about a race problem. Brethren, give us those millionaires.

The lynching of colored men must cease. Our people must assert their man-hood. Lynch-law must go!

There is no use talking, a Winchester rifle in your house, and a man there who knows how to use it will bring respect from white folks and the Colored ones too, for that matter. Great is the Winchester rifle!

At the meeting of the Va., Baptist state Convention, the Virginia Seminary received a new impetus.

The decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States relative to the coupons are most disastrous to the State and a death-blow to successful democratic management. It demonstrates that no one as elected or rather counted in as a member of the Virginia legislature has been able to comprehend the situation and suggest a remedy.

We honestly believe that the present mode of procedure is doing more to cripple the interests of the state and impoverish the people than an honest settlement of the debt upon the basis of a compromise would do. In other words by our policy we are more than paying the amount the bond-holders ask, when we consider the capital that we derive from our borders and the immigrants we send into other states.

It is time that the sovereign people of Virginia rise in their might and send to the rear the mischievous politician who feeds upon the miseries of our mother state.

Until that is done, sorrow and woe will be manifest and bankrupt reign where prosperity should be everywhere apparent.

The Supreme Court however realizing that the educational facilities of a state constituted the basis of its prosperity as well as the starting point for good government decided that the fund for such a purpose should be placed beyond the reach of the coupon tenderer. The law governing this school tax was enacted previous to the other about which a question had been raised. The liquor men by the decision are required to pay their licenses in money.

This was being practically done and the status of their case will not be materially affected.

The claim of the Democrats that the decisions are not injurious to the state, in other words, in this defeat is victory reminds one of the beaten prize-fighter, who after being knocked out both in mind and body yelled lustily, "Boys we've won!"

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Wake up.

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